

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 OMB-01 EUR-10 GAC-01 MC-02 L-02

TRSE-00 RSR-01 EB-03 /065 W
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R 171130 Z MAY 73
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECDEF WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 0130
INFO JCS WASHDC
CINCEUR
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
CHJUSMATT ANKARA

S E C R E T USNATO 2413

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-1-82
TAGS: PARM, HX, NATO
SUBJECT: BI- LATERALS - USG/ TURKISH DELEGATION

FROM ASST. SECDEF ROBERT C. HILL

1. (S) MEETING BETWEEN US AND TURKISH DELEGATION WAS HELD AS SCHEDULED IN A BUSINESS- LIKE AND CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE. THE US DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY AMBASSADOR MACOMBER WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HILL SERVING AS THE PRINCIPLE SPOKESMAN. ADMIRAL MOORER ATTENDED THE TURKISH BRIEFING BUT DID NOT STAY FOR THE QUESTION AND ANSWERS AS HE HAD TO RETURN TO THE US. THE TURKISH DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY GENERAL SANCAR, WITH A LARGE AUDIENCE FROM THE TGS, AS WELL AS MOD SANCAR, WHO MADE THE CLOSING REMARKS.

2. (S) THE MEETING OPENED WITH FORMAL PRESENTATIONS BY THE TURKISH DELEGATION LASTING FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE AND A HALF HOURS. SUBJECTS COVERED WERE; THE THREAT; FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC

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CAPABILITIES; DEFENSE INDUSTRIES; AND, THE STATUS OF TURKISH ARMED FORCES AND PROBLEMS RELATED TO US MILITARY ASSISTANCE. THERE WERE NO SURPRISES, BUT THEY DID PRESENT A GLOOMY PICTURE

WITH RESPECT TO THEIR CURRENT STATUS.

3. (S) AFTER A SHORT BREAK, AMBASSADOR MACOMBER AND ASD HILL RESPONDED IN TURN. BOTH MADE POSITIVE STATEMENTS REGARDING THE GREAT VALUE THE USG PLACES ON ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY. BOTH AMBASSADOR MACOMBER AND ASD HILL SAID THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE USG AND TURKEY COULD NOT BE MEASURED SIMPLY IN TERMS OF DOLLARS AND CENTS. IT MUST ALSO BE VIEWED IN TERMS OF TANGIBLE US PRESENCE IN TURKEY, IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY (E. G. THE SIXTH FLEET IN THE MED), US- TURKISH RELATIONSHIP AS MEMBERS OF NATO, TURKISH SECURITY GUARANTEES UNDER NATO, AND THE USG' S FORMAL AND INFORMAL INTERESTS IN TURKEY. ASD HILL THEN COVERED IN SOME DETAIL OUR MAP INTENTIONS FOR TURKEY FOR FY 74; EMPHASIZING THE FACT THAT MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS ENTERING A NEW ERA WHICH WILL LIMIT GRANT AID. ASD HILL FURTHER STRESSED THE PAUCITY OF SEA EXCESS MATERIEL. ON THE PLUS SIDE, ASD HILL TOLD THE TURKS THAT 194 M48 A2 C TANKS WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN FY 74, WITH AN ADDITIONAL 26 BECOMING AVAILABLE AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR. AS US WELL KNOWS THIS WAS BADLY NEEDED BY THE TURKS. ASD HILL ENDED ON A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FOR THE EXCELLENCE OF THE BRIEFINGS AND ASSURED THE TURKISH DELEGATION THAT THE SUBJECTS COVERED WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE SECDEF AND CAREFULLY REVIEWED IN WASHINGTON.

4. (S) NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE BY OUR SIDE. WE BELIEVE THE TURKS WERE LEFT WITH THE FEELING THAT THE USG IS CONCERNED, INTERESTED AND WILL DO WHATEVER IT CAN WITHIN THE VERY RESTRICTIVE LIMITS OF BUDGETARY AND EXCESS EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS.

5. (S) FROM THE FORMAL PRESENTATION, AS WELL AS, OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH BOTH TURKISH AND US EMBASSY OFFICIALS, IT IS CLEAR THE TURKS BELIEVE THE USG MADE A POSITIVE COMMITMENT TO REINSTATE THE \$40 MILLION DOLLAR SHORTFALL ON THE FY 72 PROGRAM. DURING ADMIRAL PEET' S INFORMAL IDSCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR TGS MILITARY THE EW ISSUE WAS RAISED; IT WAS ALSO BROUGHT OUT IN THE FORMAL BRIEFING. THE TURKS INSISTED

THAT THE PROGRAM SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE SUPPORTED OUTSIDE OF MAP. ADMIRAL PEET IN HIS PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS POINTED OUT THE IMPRACTICALITY OF THIS SITUATION. THE USG DELEGATION DID NOT RESPOND DURING THE

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BI- LATS TO THIS ISSUE, BUT ARRANGED WITH THE EMBASSY THAT THE ISSUE BE PURSUED ALONG THE LINES OF EARLIER GUIDANCE WITH THE GOT WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS.

COMMENT: DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SHOULD KEEP IN MIND SEC GEN LUNS SET THE STAGE FOR THE TURKS IN HIS COMMENT ABOUT THEIR NEEDS IN HIS FINAL NPG SUMMARY (REFTEL ANKARA 3841).

IT WAS OBVIOUS TO ME FROM TURKISH BRIEFING THAT AN OLD AND HELPFUL ALLY FEELS IT HAS A SERIOUS MILITARY PROBLEM. ALTHOUGH WELL PRESENTED,

THE TURKS IN THEIR PRESENTATION DID OVERPLAY THEIR CASE AND REFLECTED INSUFFICIENT UNDERSTANDING OF OUR CONSTRAINTS IN THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE FIELD. NONETHELESS IF PRESENT RELATIONSHIP TO US AND TO NATO REMAINS IMPORTANT, WE MAY NEED TO PURSUE FURTHER HELP PARTICULARLY FROM OTHER NATO COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS THE US FOR OUR TURKISH ALLIES AND CHECK THE COOKIE JAR AGAIN TO SEE IF WE CAN HELP THEM BECAUSE OF THE OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE OF THE AREA.

ROBERT C. HILL
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS)

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